

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating a lesion in an animal, said animal having at least one blood vessel that carries blood to said lesion, comprising:
 - (i) locating said blood vessel;
 - (ii) administering ~~a bolus injection~~ treatment composition comprising a photodynamic agent suitable for photodynamic therapy, ~~wherein the photodynamic agent is chosen from a hematoporphyrin, an aminolevulinic acid, a porphyrin, a merocyanine, a porphycene, porfimer sodium, a verteporfin, Photofrin II™, PH 10™, a chlorin, a zinc phthalocyanine, a purpurin, and a pheophorbide;~~
 - (iii) applying energy to said blood vessel, of a type and an amount sufficient to reduce the rate of blood flow through said blood vessel; ~~and thereby~~
 - (iv) prior to step (v), confirming a reduction in ~~reduce the rate at which said~~ treatment composition exits said lesion; and
 - (v) applying energy to said lesion, of a type and an amount sufficient to excite said photodynamic agent.
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said lesion is an age related macular degeneration associated choroidal neovascularization in a human.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said treatment composition is administered intravenously as a rapid bolus.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein said intravenous administration of said treatment composition is followed by intravenously administering a saline flush.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said treatment composition is administered by intravenously infusing said treatment composition over a predefined time interval.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (iii) is performed after a pre-defined time interval following step (ii).

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the application of energy to said blood vessel in step (iii) halts the blood flow through said blood vessel and thereby halts the rate at which said treatment composition exits said lesion.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said treatment composition is administered using a heat-sensitive liposome.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said locating of said blood vessel is carried out using fluorescent dye angiography comprising:

- (a) administering a visualizing composition comprising a fluorescing dye;
- (b) applying energy of a type and in an amount sufficient to cause said fluorescing dye to fluoresce as said fluorescing dye flows through the blood vessels located within a pre-selected area containing said blood vessel;
- (c) obtaining at least one angiographic image of the fluorescing dye in the blood vessels located within said preselected area sufficient to locate said blood vessel that carries blood into said lesion.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said fluorescent dye is indocyanine green dye.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein prior to step (iii), there is an additional step of approximating or confirming that the lesion is at least partially filled with said treatment composition.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12 wherein, said approximating or confirming that said lesion is at least partially filled with said treatment composition, comprises:

- (a) administering a fluorescing dye ;

- (b) applying energy of a type and in an amount sufficient to cause said fluorescing dye to fluoresce as said fluorescing dye flows through the blood vessels comprising said lesion; and
- (c) obtaining at least one angiographic image of the fluorescing dye in the blood vessels comprising the lesion.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said administering of fluorescing dye is achieved by said fluorescing dye forming part of said treatment composition.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said fluorescent dye is indocyanine green dye.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein:

- (a) prior to step (iii), there is an additional step of administering a radiation absorbing dye suitable for dye-enhanced photocoagulation; and
- (b) thereby step (iii) results in dye enhanced photocoagulation of said blood vessel.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said administering of radiation absorbing dye is achieved by said radiation absorbing dye forming part of said treatment composition.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said radiation absorbing dye is indocyanine green dye.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein:

- (a) prior to step (iii), there is an additional step of administering a radiation absorbing dye suitable for dye-enhanced photocoagulation;
- (b) thereby step (iii) results in dye enhanced photocoagulation of said blood vessel;
- (c) prior to step (iii), there is another additional step of approximating or confirming that the lesion is at least partially filled with said treatment composition; and
- (d) said confirming that said lesion is at least partially filled with said treatment composition comprises:
 - (I) administering a fluorescing dye;
 - (II) applying energy of a type and in an amount sufficient to cause said fluorescing dye to fluoresce as said fluorescing dye flows through the blood vessels comprising said lesion; and
 - (III) obtaining at least one angiographic image of the fluorescing dye in the blood vessels comprising the lesion.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein said administering of fluorescing dye and administering of radiation absorbing dye are

achieved by said fluorescing dye and said radiation absorbing dye forming part of said treatment composition.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein said fluorescing dye and said radiation absorbing dye are indocyanine green dye.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~1~~ 22, wherein said confirming step ~~that the rate at which said treatment composition exits said lesion has been reduced,~~ comprises:

- (a) administering a fluorescing dye;
- (b) applying energy of a type and in an amount sufficient to cause said fluorescing dye to fluoresce as said fluorescing dye flows through the blood vessels comprising said lesion; and
- (c) obtaining at least one angiographic image of said fluorescing dye in the blood vessels comprising the lesion.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~1~~ 24, wherein said confirming step ~~that the rate at which said treatment composition exits said lesion has been reduced,~~ comprises:

- (a) obtaining at least one angiographic image of said fluorescing dye in the blood vessels comprising the lesion.

26. (Previously presented) A method for treating a lesion in an animal, said animal having at least one blood vessel that carries blood to said lesion, comprising:

- (i) locating said blood vessel;
- (ii) administering a treatment composition comprising indocyanine green;
- (iii) applying 0.4 J- 0.9 J of energy to said blood vessel such that the blood vessel undergoes dye enhanced photocoagulation; and
- (iv) applying energy to said lesion, of a type and an amount sufficient to excite the indocyanine green and treat the lesion.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the 0.4 J- 0.9 J of energy is applied to said blood vessel over about 1.0-1.5 seconds.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the steps of locating said vessel and administering the treatment composition are performed by administration of a single bolus of indocyanine green.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising administering a photodynamic agent.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the photodynamic agent is chosen from a hematoporphyrin, an aminolevulinic acid, a porphyrin, a mercocyanine, a porphycene, porfimer sodium, a verteporfin, Photofrin II™, PH-10™, a chlorin, a zinc phthalocyanine, a purpurin, and a pheophorbide.

31. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the photodynamic agent is chosen from a hematoporphyrin, an aminolevulinic acid, a porphyrin, a mercocyanine, a porphycene, porfimer sodium, a verteporfin, Photofrin II™, PH-10™, a chlorin, a zinc phthalocyanine, a purpurin, and a pheophorbide.